This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

US
10896
75.85

Digitized by Google

X
LIBRIS
US
10896
75.85

Harvard College Library

FROM

The bequest of

George G. Wolkins

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

C347

Digitized by Google

Dr. F. B. Haugh.

with the regards

of Charles Chase

Aug. 17-1857

Digitized by Google

HUTCHINSON BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

A

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY

ON

GOVERNOR HUTCHINSON'S

HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS.

BY CHARLES DEANE.

BOSTON:
PRIVATELY PRINTED.
1857.

Digitized by Google

US 10896.75.85

HARVARD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Fifty copies printed.

Riverside, Cambridge:
Printed by H. O. Houghton and Co.

Digitized by Google

PREFATORY NOTE.

THE following bibliographical memoranda may poſſibly intereſt some of the readers of Hutchinson, who are not already familiar with the details there given: they may at leaſt serve to gratify the curioſity of some future antiquary and book collector.

This Eſſay was firſt printed in the Hiſtorical Magazine for April, 1857. It has ſince been revised, with a few additions; and fifty copies are reprinted in this form for private diſtribution.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

HUTCHINSON'S

HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS.

GOVERNOR HUTCHINSON possessed rare opportunities for writing the history of his native State; and his qualifications in every respect admirably fitted him for this labor. The motives which led him to undertake the work, and the materials he used in preparing it, are thus stated in the Preface to his first volume:

"The repeated deſtruction of ancient records and papers by fire in the town of Boſton, firſt inclined me to endeavour the preservation of such materials as remained proper for an Hiſtory of the Maſſachusetts colony. Many such came to

Digitized by Google

me from my anceſtors, who, for four ſucceſſive generations, had been principal actors in public affairs; * among the reſt, a manuscript Hiſtory of Mr. William Hubbard, which is carried down to the year 1680, but after 1650 contains but few facts. The former part of it has been of great use to me. It was so to Doctor Mather in his Hiſtory, of which Mr. Neale's is little more than an abridgement. I made what collection I could of the private papers of others of our firſt settlers, but in this I have not had the success I deſired. The descendants of some of them are poſſeſſed of many valuable letters and other manuscripts, but have not leisure or inclination to look into them themselves, and yet will not suffer it to be done by others. I am obliged to no person more than to my friend and brother, the Rev. Mr. Mather,† whose library has been open to me, as it had been before to the Rev. Mr. Prince, who had taken from thence the greateſt and moſt valuable part of what he had collected."

* For genealogical notices of Gov. Hutchinson's family, see Farmer's Geneal. Reg. pp. 155, 156; N. E. Hist. & Geneal. Reg. i. 297–310.

† Rev. Samuel Mather, son of Cotton Mather; he married Hannah Hutchinson, a sister of the Governor.

Digitized by Google

Some idea of the extent and value of the materials used by Hutchinson in preparing his first volume, may be formed by referring to the Appendix to that book, and also by consulting the volume of Original Papers, afterwards published by him. It is a little singular that he did not consult or make use of Governor Winthrop's History, while writing his work. Nearly ten years before its publication, Prince had announced, on the cover of the first part of the second volume of his Annals, that he had lately received this "most authentic and valuable journal" of Gov. Winthrop; so that Hutchinson could not have been ignorant of its existence. He, however, had the benefit of this History at second hand, through Hubbard.

Our chief purpose here is to furnish an account of the different editions of Hutchinson's History, copies of each of which now lie before us, and to include a brief notice of his miscellaneous publications.

The first volume of the History was

Digitized by Google

originally published at Boston, in 1764. It is entitled: "The | History | of the | Colony | of | Massachusetts-Bay, | from the | first settlement thereof | in 1628, | until its incorporation | with the | Colony of Plimouth, Province of Main, &c., | by the | Charter of King William and Queen Mary, | in 1691. | Historia, non ostentationi, sed fidei, veritatique componitur. | Plin. Epist. L. 7, E. 33. | By Mr. Hutchinson, | Lieutenant-Governor of the Massachusetts Province. | Boston, New-England: | Printed by Thomas & John Fleet, at the *Heart* and *Crown* | in Cornhill, MDCCLXIV." pp. 566, 8vo.

In the Boston Evening Post, of 1764, printed by T. & J. Fleet, is the following announcement, under date of July 30th: "Ready for the press and speedily will be published by T. & J. Fleet, The History of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay," (etc., etc., citing the title of the first volume.) "By the Lieutenant-Governor of the Massachusetts." In the same paper,

Digitized by Google

December 17, we find: "This day is published, and to be sold in Union Street, opposite the Corn Field, The History of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay," etc., etc. "By the Honourable Mr. Hutchinson," etc. Then follows the table of contents at length, as it appears in the first volume. In the advertisement of July 30th, above referred to, that part of the History is announced to appear in "Two vols. 8vo." The notice was corrected in the next issue of the paper.

This volume was, the next year, 1765, reprinted at "London: Printed for Mr. Richardson, in Pater-noster Row," and is styled "The Second Edition." It has the same number of pages as the first edition, and is printed almost line for line throughout. The date on the title page of this issue was first printed "MDCCLX," the V, doubtless, being accidentally omitted. Subsequently a new title was printed, correcting the error, and was pasted into some of the copies. This is observable in the

Digitized by Google

copy in the College Library, which is not the only one that has come under our notice. This error,—by no means an infrequent one, and which in other instances has been a source of great perplexity to bibliographers*—has occasioned some misapprehension as to the time when the first edition of this part of the History was published. Allen refers it to 1760, and he is followed by the Hist. & Geneal. Reg. I. 310.

The second part (or volume) was published in 1767. The title reads thus: "The | History | of the | Province | of | Massachusetts-Bay | from the | Charter of

* The claim which for a long time was awarded to Caxton of having introduced Printing into England, was many years since controverted by the exhibition of a book printed at Oxford, and bearing the date M.CCCC.LXVIII., six years before the firſt issue from Caxton's press in that country. There has been a long controversy respecting this Oxford book, and the lateſt and beſt opinion appears to be that the numeral X. was omitted in the date, either by accident or design, and that the true date is M.CCCC.LXXVIII. Caxton's claim has also been conteſted on other grounds.

Digitized by Google

King William and Queen Mary | in 1691 | until the year 1750. | By Mr. Hutchinson, | Lieutenant-Governor of the Province. | Boston, New England: | Printed by Thomas and John Fleet in Cornhill, | and sold in Union Street, opposite to the Cornfield. | MDCCLXVII." 539 pp. including an index to both volumes. This is advertised in the Evening Post of July 13, 1767, as "Just Published, and to be had in Union Street, opposite to the Cornfield."

While the author was engaged in preparing this volume, an event occurred which came near depriving us of this portion of his labours. Hutchinson was charged with having favoured the passage of the Stamp Act; the minds of the people here were greatly excited, and on the evening of the 26th of August, 1765, an infuriated mob broke into his house in Boston, and destroyed and scattered all his furniture, books, papers, etc. In the preface to this volume, he says:

Digitized by Google

"The loss of many papers and books, in print as well as manuscript, beſides my family memorials, can never be repaired. For several days I had no hopes of recovering any conſiderable part of my Hiſtory; but, by the great care and pains of my good friend and neighbour, the Rev. Mr. Eliot, who received into his house all my books and papers * which were saved, the whole manuſcript, except eight or ten sheets, were collected together; and, although it had lain in the ſtreet scattered abroad several hours in the rain, yet so much of it was legible as that I was able to supply the reſt and transcribe it. The moſt valuable materials were loſt, some of which I deſigned to have published in the Appendix. I pray God to forgive the actors in and advisers to this moſt savage and inhuman injury, and I hope their poſterity will read with pleasure and profit what has so narrowly escaped the outrage of their anceſtors.

"The hazard which attends such papers, together with the requeſt of many of my friends,

* It is said that some of these papers, thus happily rescued from deſtruction, for a long time after bore the footprints of the Vandal mob, in the dirt which ſtill adhered to them.

Digitized by Google

induced me to publiſh my manuscript sooner than I intended.

"I have carried the ſtory down to the year 1750, but that part which relates to the laſt twenty years in a more general way, being deprived of some papers which would have enabled me to render it more particular and circumstantial."

He also adds, relative to his plan in writing the first part of his History:

"Some of my friends of the colony of New Plymouth took it unkindly that I said no more of their affairs in the firſt part of the hiſtory. My principal object was the Maſſachusetts colony; beſides, I never could meet with many papers relative to Plymouth. From such papers as I have been able to obtain, I have prepared the beſt summary I could, to which I ſhall give a place in the Appendix."

The "summary" there given is taken chiefly from Bradford's MS. History, the whole of which has been recently published by the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Digitized by Google

This volume was the next year reprinted at "London: Printed by J. Smith, near Wellclose-Square; for G. Kearsly, at No. 1 in Ludgate-Street, and W. Davenhill, at No. 8 in Cornhill. MDCCLXVIII." This is styled "Vol. II. The Second Edition." It is printed nearly page for page throughout with the first edition.

In 1769, Thomas and John Fleet published at Boston "A Collection of Original Papers Relative to the History of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay," in 576 pp. 8vo. This volume is sometimes lettered on the back as "vol. 3" of Hutchinson's History. Copies in the College Library and in the Athenæum are thus lettered. In the preface, the editor, of course Hutchinson, says:

> "The natural increase of people upon the Britiſh Continent of North America is so great as to make it highly probable that in a few generations more, a mighty Empire will be formed there.

Digitized by Google

"The rise and progress of the several Colonies, of which this Empire will be conſtituted, will be subjects of entertainment for speculative and ingenious minds in diſtant ages.

"He who rescues from oblivion intereſting hiſtorical facts is beneficial to poſterity as well as to his contemporaries; and the proſpect thereof to a benevolent mind causes that employment to be agreeable and pleasant, which otherwise would be irksome and painful.

"The papers of which this volume conſiſts are intended to support and elucidate the principal facts related in the firſt part of the Hiſtory of Maſſachusetts-Bay, and may serve as an Appendix to it.* The author of that Hiſtory was poſſeſſed of many other ancient and very curious

* The first article in this collection is the Massachusetts Colony charter, which, the Editor says, had "never been printed. There are," he continues, "very few manuscript copies of it. Those are liable to so many accidents, that it is thought proper to publish it as the moſt likely means of preventing its being irrecoverably loſt." This is printed from a copy atteſted by John Winthrop, Gov., March 19th, 1643-4. The statement that it is here firſt printed is an error. It was printed *eighty years before* this, by J. Green, Boſton, 1689,—a copy of which early impression is in the library of the Hiſtorical Society. This was evidently taken from the "*Dupl.*" of the charter, now at Salem.

Digitized by Google

original papers, which are irrecoverably loſt by an unfortunate event ſufficiently known. If this Collection ſhall be favourably received, another volume of Papers will probably be publiſhed, to serve as an Appendix to the second part of the same Hiſtory."

This is advertised in the Evening Post of October 9, 1769. "Just Published, A Collection of Original Papers," etc., etc. "Subscribers are desired to send for their Books to T. & J. Fleet, at the Heart & Crown in Cornhill." In the next issue of the paper, October 16, the book is advertised as "A Volume of Curious Papers collected by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which may serve as an Appendix to his History of the Massachusetts Bay." And in the paper of October 30, there is added: "And, if favourably received, another volume will probably be published," etc., etc., as above cited from the preface.

This volume, of which many of the original MSS. composing it are in the Li-

Digitized by Google

braries of the Historical Society and the Antiquarian Society, has never been reprinted; and the additional volume thus contingently promised, never made its appearance.

The next and latest edition of the first and second parts of this History was published in 1795. In the Columbian Centinel of December 30, of that year, appears, for the first time there, the following advertisement:

"Thomas and Andrews, Fauſt's Statue, No. 45 Newbury Street, Boſton, Have lately publiſhed the following very valuable Books, viz: (in two large octavo volumes, price four dollars.) The Hiſtory of Maſſachuſetts, from the firſt settlement thereof, in 1628, until the year 1750, a period of 122 years. By Thomas Hutchinson, Esq., Late Governor of Maſſachuſetts. The 3d Edition, with additional Notes and Corrections. Subscribers are requeſted to send for their Books." *

* Then follows a liſt of other works published by them. "Also in one large 8vo vol. (a necessary companion to the

Digitized by Google

The first volume was "Printed at Salem, by Thomas C. Cushing, For Thomas and Andrews," pp. 478, besides 10 pp. of index. The second volume was "Printed at Boston, by Manning and Loring," for the same parties, and contains 452 pp., including 4 pp. of index. The index of the former editions is here divided, and the portions which refer to each volume printed therein. On the reverse of the title page to the first volume is this note:

"In this Edition, beſides many corrections, some additional Notes are placed in the margin, which are inclosed [thus]. Mr. Hutchinson's ſentiments reſpecting allegiance and the political connection of this country with Great Britain, are diſtinguished by italic letters."

The "additional notes" are very few and brief, not consisting of above thirty

above) with a large sheet map, price 2 dollars, The Hiſtory of the Diſtrict of Maine. By James Sullivan, &c., &c." Then follow Williams's Hiſtory of Vermont and Lendrum's Hiſtory of the Revolution.

Digitized by Google

lines in all. They have been ascribed to a distinguished scholar and antiquary, many years since deceased; but, in the judgment of some whose opinions are entitled to respect, on insufficient grounds. The "corrections" made must have been mere verbal ones, besides those few indicated in the table of Errata in the second volume of the previous editions. This edition, as to paper and printing, is the poorest of all.

Eleven years previously to this, Isaiah Thomas commenced a reprint of this History in the "Royal American Magazine," a monthly publication, which began in January, 1774, and came to an untimely end in April, 1775; the number for March being probably the last issued. It was printed in a form to be separated from the Magazine, and probably was in most cases so separated when the Magazine has been bound. A copy of the latter, "volume I.," from January to December inclusive, is in the Library of the His-

Digitized by Google

torical Society, and contains 128 pp.* of the History bound in at the end. All but two of the unbound numbers (which were probably fifteen in all), with the History, which extends only to the 152d page, are in the Library of the Antiquarian Society at Worcester. The first part of the title of the History corresponds to that of the first and second editions, then follows: "By Mr. Hutchinson, Late Lieutenant-Governor, and now Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Massachusetts Province. * * * * The Third Edition. Boston: Printed and sold by I. Thomas, near the Market." No date.

The prospectus of the Magazine was

* I have for some years had 128 pp. of this fragment of Hutchinson's History, but was ignorant of the circumstances attending its publication. A few months since, I called the attention of my friend, Mr. Haven, of the Antiquarian Society at Worcester, to it, who at that time had no recollection of ever having heard of such an attempted edition. Since then, however, he has informed himself, and has kindly afforded me the desired explanation. I am also indebted to him for other valuable information in preparing this article.

Digitized by Google

first issued July 1, 1773, and was again published in the Spy in January, 1774, with an explanatory advertisement from the editor, I. Thomas, giving the reason why the issue of the first number was delayed, viz: that the vessel containing the types ordered from England, had been cast ashore at Cape Cod. This advertisement is dated January 3d, and it is added that the types have now arrived, and that No. 1, for January 1774, will be published on the first day of February. In the Spy of February 10th, is this notice, under date of February 6th: "This day published, price ten shillings and eight pence [lawful money] per annum to subscribers, No. 1 of the Royal American Magazine, &c., for January, 1774." After describing the plan of the work, the editor continues:

"And to complete this plan will be added (to begin at the end of the firſt number and continued until the whole is finiſhed, printed in an elegant manner, on fine paper, and occaſion-

Digitized by Google

ally ornamented with Copper-plate Prints, exclusive of those particularly for the Magazine,*) Governor Hutchinson's Hiſtory of the Maſſachusetts Bay; which, when finiſhed, will be worth the coſt of the Magazine."

Among the "conditions," it is stated that "the publication will always be on or before the last of the month." The first number contained sixteen pages of the History, including the title and preface; all the other numbers contained probably eight pages each. The supplement to the first volume contained twenty-four

* This Magazine, by the way, is not unworthy the notice of the curious. It contains nineteen engravings, the moſt of which are by the celebrated Paul Revere. The firſt number has "A view of the Town of Boſton, with several ships of war in the harbour." This view is similar (though on a larger scale) to that which appeared in "Edes & Gills' North American Almanac and Massachusetts Regiſter for the year 1770." See Drake's Boſton, p. 747. The number for May contains the curious "Indian Gazette," which was afterwards issued in Thomas's Hiſtory of Printing, II. 190. We are told in the Magazine that "This print is engraved from an authentic copy, drawn by a *French* engineer from the *American* original."

Digitized by Google

pages (105 to 128 inclusive) of the History.

On account of "the distresses of the Town of Boston," Thomas resolved to suspend the publication of this Magazine for a short period, after the issue of the first six numbers; and he never resumed it. After some delay, it was purchased by Joseph Greenleaf, who continued it, with the History, to its speedy conclusion, as stated above. Greenleaf used a different type from Thomas, and this peculiarity marks the History; pp. 57 to 152 being printed by the former. In Greenleaf's notice to his subscribers, dated December 31, 1774, and which appears as a preface to "volume I.," he says:

"I have at length with difficulty gone through the laſt ſix months of the Magazine; the publication having been suspended near two months by the original undertaker, I have been obliged to publiſh one oftener than once in three weeks. I now present you with a Supplement, though

Digitized by Google

not promised in the proposals, also with an Index and Title Page. As it muſt be a great length of time before the Hiſtory of Maſſachusetts Bay will be finiſhed, by being thus slowly publiſhed with the Magazine, many of the subscribers have deſired that the Supplement might consist wholly of said History. Such subscribers as deſire to haſten the completion of the Hiſtory, by ſignifying it to the publiſher, may have the addition of a whole sheet to every Magazine the year to come, making a proportionable addition to the price, provided that three hundred at least of the subscribers deſire it; by this means twenty-four pages of the Hiſtory will be publiſhed every month. If any persons, not subscribers, choose to have the Hiſtory alone, monthly, they may, by subscribing."

Further on he says:

"Many of the subscribers wiſh to get rid of Hutchinson's Hiſtory; I am willing to gratify both those who requeſt its continuance, and those who wiſh to drop it; therefore, those subscribers who had rather have the Magazine without the Hiſtory, upon ſignifying the same one month beforehand, (provided that three hun-

Digitized by Google

dred at leaſt ſhall certify the same,) they ſhall be gratified, and a proportionable abatement be made in the price."

The war, says Thomas, put an end to the Magazine in April; and the edition of Hutchinson, thus commenced, remains a fragment.

As is well known, Governor Hutchinson was superseded in the office of chief magistrate of the province by the arrival of General Gage, in 1774; and on the first of June of that year he sailed for England. He died there before the close of the war, in 1780.* He left among his papers, in MS., a continuation of his History, down to the period of his departure from the country. This was pub-

* Gov. Hutchinson resided at Brompton, near London. He died June 3d, 1780, in the sixty-ninth year of his age, and was buried at Croydon. His eldeſt son, Thomas, died at Heavitree, near Exeter, in 1811, aged 71; and his son Elisha, at Blurton Parsonage, Trentham, Staffordshire, in 1824, aged 80. See Hiſt. & Geneal. Reg. I., 297, 310; Farmer's Geneal. Reg. pp. 155, 156.

Digitized by Google

lished in London, in 1828, edited by his grandson, Rev. John Hutchinson, of Trentham, Staffordshire.

The credit of having procured the publication of this volume, which was attended with much difficulty and delay, is mainly due to the zeal and perseverance of Hon. James Savage. We have recently had the privilege of perusing the greater part of the interesting correspondence which took place in reference to it, from the year 1817 to the time when the volume made its appearance in print; and, were it not that this notice is already extended much beyond our original purpose, we should be tempted to give some extracts from the letters.* It having been reported that Governor Hutchinson left, at his decease, in MS., a continuation of his History, prepared for the press, Mr. Savage formed a plan, in 1817, of procuring

* By the kindness of Mr. Savage, I have been favoured with a perusal of this correspondence.

Digitized by Google

a copy for publication. Accordingly, on the 18th of August of that year, he addressed a letter to Mr. Elisha Hutchinson, a son of Gov. H., then residing at Birmingham, England, soliciting the favour of allowing a copy to be taken for the purpose indicated. Mr. Hutchinson, however, knew nothing of the MS. in question; he said he had never seen his father's papers since his death, and was ignorant of what they consisted; that the Governor's literary remains were in possession of his (Elisha's) nephew, a son of his deceased elder brother, then residing at Exeter in Devonshire. Inquiries were then made in that direction, and the next year it was announced that a portion of the MS. had been found, but that the first part unhappily was wanting; additional search would be made for it. The family were reluctant that it should be seen in its fragmentary form. In 1820, Mr. Savage wrote again respecting it, and had his application supported by Judge Davis, President

Digitized by Google

of the Historical Society, by President Kirkland, and by Gov. Gore. It was thought desirable to procure the fragment, even if the missing part could not be found. Soon after, in that year, the gratifying intelligence was received, that the missing portion had been recovered, and negotiations were continued, with a view to secure the publication of the work. The correspondence on the part of the Hutchinson family was conducted by a Mr. Sabbatier, a connection, and by Rev. John Hutchinson, a son of Elisha, who subsequently edited the work. Owing to the terms they insisted on, no arrangement could then be effected, and the correspondence terminated in 1823. In 1826 it was revived by Mr. Savage, and terms of publication were finally agreed upon. Mr. Savage was solicitous that the work should be published in this country; the Hutchinsons insisted that it should be published in London, alleging, as a reason, that the other volumes of the History

Digitized by Google

were originally issued there,—which, as we have seen, was not the case. They therefore arranged with John Murray, of London, for the publication of one thousand copies, five hundred of which, as per agreement, were taken by Mr. Savage and his friends for the American market, at a charge of £200. These were sent over in paper covers, and thus entitled: "The | History of the | Province | of | Massachusetts Bay | from | the year 1750, until 1774. | By Mr. Hutchinson, | Late ~~Lieutenant~~-Governor of that Province. | Vol. III. | London: | John Murray, Albemarle Street. | MDCCCXXVIII." pp. 551, including a large appendix of official papers. The remaining five hundred copies, designed for the London trade, were published as an independent work, as the editor supposed but few persons in England would be likely to possess the other two volumes. These contained a preface, and a dedication to Lord Lyndhurst, which were wanting in the other copies, and were

Digitized by Google

entitled: "The | History of the Province | of | Massachusetts Bay | from 1749 to 1774, | comprising a detailed narrative of the | origin and early stages | of the | American Revolution. | By Thomas Hutchinson, Esq., LL. D., | formerly Governor of the Province. | Edited from the Author's MS. by his Grandson, | the Rev. John Hutchinson, M. A. | London: | John Murray, Albemarle Street. | MDCCCXXVIII."

The sale of this volume was slow. Of the five hundred copies ordered for this country, a large number were, some years after, bought by one of our booksellers for a trifling sum; and, in order to give the volume the appearance of an independent work, rather than one of a series, he had a new title printed, omitting "vol. III.," and put into some of the copies, which have been thrown upon the market. Many of those designed for the London trade have also found their way here.

Digitized by Google

These particulars relative to this volume may seem too minute and even trivial to the present reader of this notice, but they may at least serve to solve the perplexity of some future book collector.

The editor partly promised a biographical volume relative to his ancestor, "with curious and interesting details," from papers in the possession of the family; "among these may be particularized a conversation between his Majesty, George III., the Earl of Dartmouth, and Governor Hutchinson, immediately on the arrival of the latter in England." This promise is as yet unfulfilled.

Governor Hutchinson's historical labours are of the highest value, and Massachusetts owes him a debt of gratitude for what he has done to illustrate her annals. Although lacking that elegance of style so pleasing in an historian, yet, as his work will ever be regarded as of the first authority by the student of our history, it can never be wholly superseded. The

Digitized by Google

ample materials he possessed for the earlier portion of it, have already been referred to, and he was well fitted to make use of them. Hutchinson's mind was eminently a judicial one; and candour, moderation, and a desire for truth appear to have guided his pen. In a note which he wrote, near to the close of his life, on the back of an unpublished MS. on American affairs, left among his papers, he says:

"In the course of my education I found no part of science a more pleaſing ſtudy than history, and no part of the hiſtory of any country more useful than that of its government and laws. The hiſtory of Great Britain and of its dominions was of all others the moſt delightful to me; and a thorough knowledge of the nature and conſtitution of the supreme, and of the subordinate governments thereof, I considered as what would be peculiarly beneficial to me, in the line of life upon which I was entering. And the public employments to which I was early called, and suſtained for near thirty years together, gave

Digitized by Google

me many advantages for the acquisition of this knowledge."

In his last volume he furnishes a detailed narrative of the principal events immediately preceding the Revolution,—

"All which he saw, and part of which he was."

His subject was a delicate one, but it is treated with his usual good judgment and with an excellent spirit.

Hutchinson's volumes, particularly the first and second editions of the History, and the collection of "Papers," have become quite rare, and are not often found except at the breaking up of some old library, and then they usually command a high price. Even the edition of 1795 is fast taking its place among those books that have to be sought for before they can be obtained. Before many years, a new edition of the first two volumes of the History will probably be called for, and

Digitized by Google

possibly a reprint of the "Papers." The preparation of a new edition of the latter would involve a collation with the originals, so far as they now exist. More attractive and popular Histories of our State may in a measure take the place of this with the great mass of readers, but to the curious and critical, Hutchinson will always have a value, and to the student who seeks for the sources of our history, his work will always be indispensable.

In conclusion, we will briefly allude to a few miscellaneous publications of Gov. Hutchinson—historical and controversial. Dr. Allen says he published, in 1764, "A Brief State of the Claim of the Colony." We have never met with a work of his with this title. On the first of June, 1763, the General Assembly of Massachusetts "Resolved, that his Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, be desired in the recess of the Court to prepare a very particular state of the controversy between this government and the governments of Connec-

Digitized by Google

ticut and New York, respecting the boundary lines between them." On the 23d of December, the Report was announced, and on the 28th accepted, and the secretary was directed to transmit the same to Mr. Agent Manduit. It was also "Resolved, that the above Report be printed at the end of the Journal of this session." This Report as printed is entitled, "The Case of the Provinces of Massachusetts Bay and New York, respecting the boundary line between the two Provinces. Boston; New England. Printed by Green and Russell," etc., etc., "1764." This is a valuable paper, and may be the work intended by Dr. Allen.

Previously to this, a committee was appointed by both houses "to prepare a State of the title of the Province to the Country between the rivers Kennebeck and St. Croix." From this committee Hutchinson made a report, dated January 18, 1763, which was accepted in concurrence, February 1, and a copy directed to

Digitized by Google

be sent to the agent. It was also printed at the end of the Journal of 1762–3.

In 1761, quite an interest was excited on the question of the currency, and an earnest newspaper controversy on this subject was carried on between Hutchinson and the younger Otis. In the College Library is a pamphlet of 27 pp., being "Considerations on lowering the value of Gold Coins within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay;" it bears no date, but it is advertised in the Evening Post of January 18, 1762, as "this day published." The first eight pages is a reprint of one of Hutchinson's papers from the Evening Post of December 14, 1761, to which the pamphlet is a reply. See also the Evening Post of January 4th and 11th, 1762.

The half-dozen letters which Hutchinson wrote in 1768 and 1769 to his friend, Thomas Whately of London, and which in 1773 were returned to the Province by Dr. Franklin, were, with the others sent

Digitized by Google

back with them, printed at Boston in that year, and at London in 1774.

Many of Hutchinson's official papers, while acting governor and governor of the province, were published at the time, and have since (the most of them) been republished in the collection of State Papers, prepared by Alden Bradford and issued in 1818.* Many valuable unpublished papers and letters of his are in the archives of the State, and in the Library of the Historical Society.

* This work is entitled, "Speeches of the Governors of Massachusetts, from 1765 to 1775; and The Answers of the House of Representatives, to the Same; with their Resolutions and Addresses for that period. And other Public Papers, relative to the dispute between this country and Great Britain, which led to the Independence of the United States. Boston: Printed by Russell and Gardner, proprietors of the work. 1818."

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.

This
the Lib
stamped
A fin
by retai
time.
Please

AUG 24 '
321

CANCELLED
MAY 24 1984
MAY 1 1984

WIDENER
JUN 29 1998
CANCELLED

Digitized by Google

A bibliographical essay on Governor
Widener Library 004553397
3 2044 086 334 745